

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1376

INFO INFO RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 534

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2366

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PR UN DA

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: A) COPENHAGEN 2347 B) STATE 194115

SUMMARY: WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THE DANES WILL VOTE
WITH US ON THE PUERTO RICAN ISSUE IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24.
END SUMMARY.

1) AFTER DEMARCHE REPORTED REF A, DCM HAD BRIEF
CONVERSATIONS ON PUERTO RICO ON AUGUST 17 AND 18 WITH
MFA'S DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR, OLE BIERRING. ON BOTH
OCCASIONS, BIERRING SAID, IN EFFECT, THAT THE DANES WERE
SOLIDLY WITH US ON THIS ISSUE.

2) THE DANS' STAND WAS ELABORATED SOMEWHAT IN AUGUST 18
AND 19 CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN MFA'S UN DESK OFFICER, KLAUS
KAPEL, AND POLCOUNS. KAPEL SAID THAT HE YESTERDAY
RECEIVED A CABLE FROM THE DANISH UN MISSION STATING THAT
UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY IT WOULD OPPOSE THE
MOST RECENT VERSION OF THE PUERTO RICAN RESOLUTION IN THE
COMMITTEE OF 24. IT WOULD ALSO OPPOSE ANY DISCUSSION OF
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PUERTO RICO IN THAT FORUM ON THE GROUNDS OF LACK OF

JURISDICTION. KAPEL CONTINUED THAT HE WAS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT NO INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE SENT FROM COPENHAGEN TO ALTER THE POSITION THE DANISH MISSION INTENDED TO TAKE. HE HAD NOT YET, HOWEVER, HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE MISSIONS TELEGRAM TO THE ATTENTION OF HIS PRINCIPALS.

3) KAPEL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT NEITHER THE AUSTRALIANS NOR THE DANES WOULD MAKE A STATEMENT EXPLAINING THEIR PRESUMABLY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE: "IF, HOWEVER, THE AUSTRALIANS DECIDED TO SPEAK, THE DANES WOULD ALSO MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPLAINING THEIR VOTE ON THE GROUNDS NOTED ABOVE - LACK OF THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION OVER ANY QUESTION CONCERNING PUERTO RICO".

4) COMMENT: DESPITE KAPEL'S CAUTION, WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THE DANES WILL GO WITH US ON THIS QUESTION. MFA INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ARE SOMEWHAT SNAGGED BECAUSE OF THE ANNUAL DANISH CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING HERE AUGUST 18-20.
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